

# Southern New England – New York Bight

## *Coastal Program in New York*

### Represented by the following Members of Congress:

Senator Charles E. Schumer (D)  
Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton (D)  
1st through 23rd districts

### Contact

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### Purpose

This Coastal Program works to conserve the ecological integrity of the area's heavily populated coastal zone. The program is responsible for coastal resources from Cape Cod, Massachusetts to Cape May, New Jersey. This area includes two of the largest, most heavily impacted estuaries in the Northeast: Long Island Sound and New York/New Jersey Harbor.

The work of this Coastal Program office is guided by several laws and related legislative authorities, including:

*Clean Water Act*  
*Endangered Species Act*  
*Oil Pollution Act*  
*Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act*  
*Coastal Barrier Improvement Act*  
*Coastal Wetland Planning, Protection and Restoration Act*

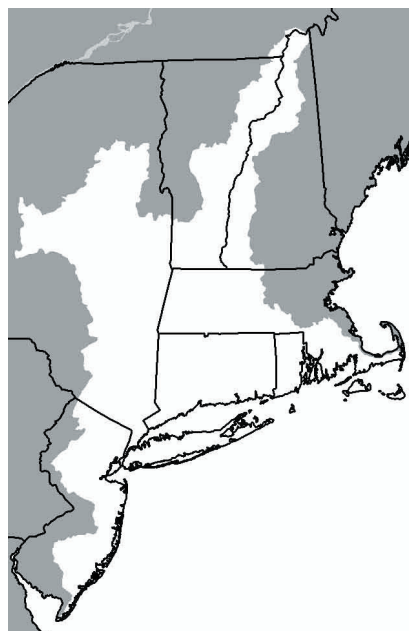
### Program Activities

The Coastal Program provides expertise and resources to protect and restore coastal habitats. The program also plays a critical role in multi-agency groups by identifying and mapping coastal habitats and assisting with the recovery of federally threatened and endangered species.

Current partners include *New York Department of Environmental Conservation, NOAA, EPA, Long Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Army Corps of Engineers, Coast Guard, SUNY, The Nature Conservancy, Regional Plan Association, New York Audubon and Save the Sound.*

### Highlights

- Conducting an ecological assessment of Long Island Sound, as part of a multi-agency effort to create a system of stewardship
- Contributing to planning and implementation of priority habitat restoration and protection in the Peconics Estuary
- Assisting in the New York/New Jersey Harbor Estuary Program's effort to protect significant habitat for fish and wildlife
- Providing technical assistance on a project and grant proposal to open fish passage on the Little River in the Peconics Estuary
- Providing technical expertise to assist partners with state and federal resource protection grants
- Supporting a landscape-level effort to recover the Atlantic coast population of the federally listed threatened piping plover



### Issues

Coastal lands are in extreme demand throughout the state, and property values are among the highest in the country. Land acquisition, as a priority means of protecting habitat, comes at an exceptional cost and funding does not stretch as far as it does in other parts of the country.

*The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.*

**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**  
**1 800/344 WILD**  
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